

## MINOR PLANT NOTES. No. 1.

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An introductory paragraph to this series may be short as will be the notes that follow. Suffice therefore to say that from time to time the field jottings and short notes of observations on the plants of our State flora will be presented. Not only those made myself but others which may be kindly communicated to me for this purpose by botanists, amateurs, students and other observers will find a place in the series. An especial invitation is extended to pupils in our High Schools and to teachers throughout the State to contribute suitable material which in many cases may be of great interest and importance. Sub-heads will be used thus making it possible to scan the notes easily.

*PUCCINIA SMILACIS*.—This Black Rust which has the various species of Green Briar for its host, was noticed in extraordinary quantity the past season in Scioto, Adams and Brown Counties. It was abundant only on *Smilax glauca*—called in that region the Saw Brier—but not uncommonly occurred on *S. hispida* and *S. rotundifolia*. It was also remarkable in this respect namely that the teleutospores (the black or winter spores) were excessively abundant: the uredospores (red or summer spores) could be found only when search was made. The observation here recorded pertains to the first half of the month of November. I have occasionally noticed uredospores in quantity on *Smilax* leaves in the various parts of Ohio but never before found the winter-spores common. It should perhaps be added parenthetically that *Dicæoma* having the priority over *Puccinia* is really the generic name that should be used, but the commoner designation may here be tolerated.

*QUERCUS ACUMINATA*. — The Chestnut or Yellow Oak (name in Gray's Manual *Quercus Muhlenbergii*) is described as "a tall tree with thin *flaky* bark" (Gray), or "a tree with gray *flaky* bark" (Britton); and in fact many of the White Oaks are said to have "*flaky*" bark. The *Quercus acuminata* is very abundant in central Ohio and is of common occurrence in many parts of the State. It is rare that the "flakiness" of the bark or a tendency to separate in plates, is pronounced or conspicuous in our Chestnut Oak trees. The single good example I have found is here shown in Fig. 1 reproduced

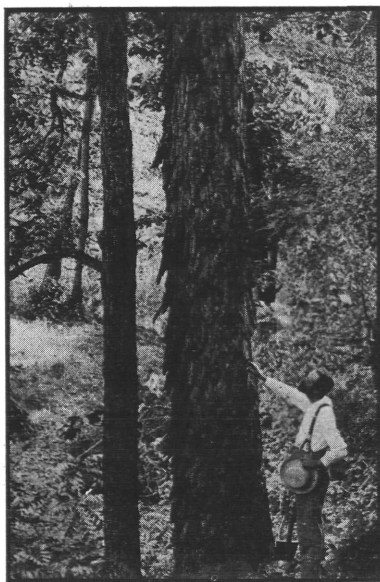


Fig. 1.

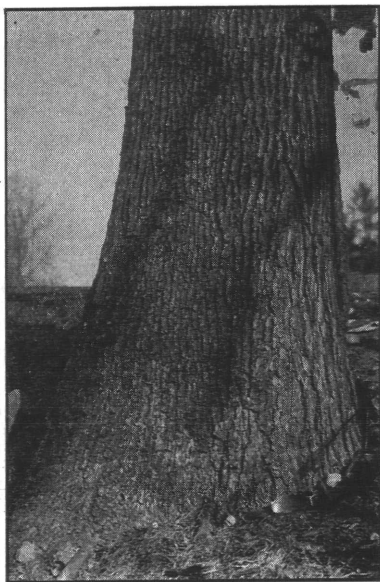


Fig. 2.

from a photograph of a specimen growing in Hayden's ravine near Columbus. Both trees shown are the same species but the smaller one has merely furrowed, not flaky, bark, and it is a fair representative of the trunks of this Oak as they occur in our vicinity. The usual form of bark is perhaps more clearly shown in Fig. 2, which is from a photograph of a large tree standing near the Horticultural Hall of the Ohio State University. This specimen has leaves remarkably narrow for *Q. acuminata* but the trunk is similar in appearance to the trees which have broad leaves.

*HELIANTHUS MAXIMILIANI*. — Maximilian's Sunflower whose habitat and range are given in Britton and Brown's Illustrated Flora as "on dry prairies, Minnesota, and Manitoba to the Northwest

Territory, Nebraska and Texas" may be said to be out of place in Ohio. Yet Mr. R. F. Griggs found it (a single plant) in the season of 1900 (cf. O. S. U. NATURALIST, 1:16) at Sandusky, Erie County. In a package of interesting plants sent to the State Herbarium recently by Mr. Otto Hacker, fine herbarium specimens of this conspicuous species were furnished. Mr. Hacker says that he observed it near Painesville (Lake County) six or seven years ago by railway tracks, where it is still flourishing.

LOTUS CORNICULATUS — This European Lotus, with such common names as Bird's foot, Trefoil, Ground Honeysuckle, Bloom-fell, Crowtoes, Cat's-clover, and Sheepfoot, was collected at Painesville by Mr. Otto Hacker in nursery grounds. This is the second time this waif has been recorded for Ohio, the first case being reported by Mr. Ricksecker, of Oberlin